Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Original) A method of enhancing expression of a desired protein at mucosal effector sites, said method comprising placing the protein to be expressed under the control of a promoter having SED ID NO 2, SED ID NO 3 or SED ID 4 or a fragment or variant or any of these which has promoter activity, and causing expression in mucosal cells.

2. (Previously Presented) A construct comprising a promoter selected from the group consisting of P_{ompC}, P_{phoP} and P_{pagC} or fragments or variants thereof which can act as promoters, operatively interconnected with a nucleic acid which encodes a protein, able to induce a protective immune response against an organism, in a mammal to which it is administered, wherein said construct contains no further elements of the ompC, phoP or pagC gene.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A recombinant gut-colonising microorganism which has been transformed with ~~a~~ the construct of claim 2.

4. (Previously Presented) The recombinant gut-colonising microorganism of claim 3 wherein said protein is heterologous to said microorganism.

5-6. Cancelled

7. (Previously Presented) The recombinant gut-colonising microorganism of claim 3 which comprises a *Salmonella spp.*

8. (Previously Presented) The recombinant gut-colonising microorganism of claim 7 wherein the *Salmonella spp.* is *Salmonella typhimurium* or *Salmonella typhi.*

9. (Previously Presented) The recombinant gut-colonising microorganism of claim 3 wherein the gut-colonising microorganism is attenuated.

10. (Previously Presented) The construct of claim 2 wherein the heterologous protein is able to induce a protective immune response against *Yersinia pestis.*

11. (Currently Amended) The construct of claim 10 wherein the ~~said~~ heterologous protein comprises an F1-antigen of *Yersinia pestis* or an antigenic fragment or variant thereof.

12. (Previously Presented) A vaccine comprising a recombinant gut-colonising microorganism of claim 3.

13. (Previously Presented) The vaccine of claim 12 which further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

14. (Previously Presented) The vaccine of claim 12 which is adapted for oral administration.

15. (Previously Presented) A method of inducing a protective immune response against a pathogen in a mammal, said method comprising administering to said mammal a recombinant gut-colonising microorganism of claim 3.

16. Cancelled

17. (Previously Presented) The recombinant gut-colonising microorganism of claim 3 wherein the heterologous protein is able to induce a protective immune response against *Yersinia pestis*.

18. (Previously Presented) The vaccine of claim 13 which is adapted for oral administration.

19. (Previously Presented) The recombinant gut-colonising microorganism of claim 9 which comprises *Salmonella spp.*

20. (Previously Presented) The vaccine of claim 12 wherein the promoter has the sequences of SEQ ID NO 1, SEQ ID NO 2, SEQ ID NO 3 or SEQ ID NO 4.

21. (Currently Amended) The recombinant gut-colonising microorganism of claim 19 wherein the *Salmonella ~~app.~~is spp. is Salmonella typhimurium or Salmonella typhi.*

22. (Currently Amended) The recombinant gut-colonising microorganism of claim 17 wherein the ~~said heterlologous~~ heterologous protein comprises an F1-antigen of *Yersinia pestis* or an antigenic fragment or variant thereof.